

ENDANGERED *Species* BULLETIN

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In the work that we and our partners undertake to conserve and recover vulnerable species, awareness of the efforts we take for native plants is often overshadowed by the interest received by animal species. Too often overlooked is the fact that plants provide the foundation upon which animal life, including our own, depends. Plants are not only of aesthetic value, they provide us with food, many medicines, vital ecosystem services, and a variety of other products that are essential to our economy and well being. Fortunately, we have an important partner in the protection of our nation's imperiled flora, the Center for Plant Conservation. This edition of the Endangered Species Bulletin features some of the Center's progress in restoring these rare plant species.



Photo by Kenneth Heil

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

WASHINGTON D.C. OFFICE *Washington, D.C. 20240*

Steve Williams, *Director*
Gary Frazer, *Assistant Director for Endangered Species*
Elizabeth H. Stevens, *Deputy Assistant Director*

Claire Cassel, *Chief, Division of Partnerships and Outreach* (703)358-2390
Patrick Leonard, *Chief, Division of Consultation, HCPS, Recovery, and State Grants* (703)358-2106
Chris L. Nolin, *Chief, Division of Conservation and Classification* (703)358-2105
Kathy Walker, *Chief, Office of Program Support* (703)358-2079
<http://endangered.fws.gov/>

REGION ONE *Eastside Federal Complex, 911 N.E. 11th Ave, Portland OR 97232*

*California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon,
Washington, American Samoa, Commonwealth
of the Northern Mariana Islands,
Guam and the Pacific Trust Territories*

Anne Badgley, *Regional Director* (503)231-6118
<http://pacific.fws.gov/>

REGION TWO *P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103*

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H. Dale Hall, *Regional Director* (505)248-6282
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William Hartwig, *Regional Director* (612)715-5301
<http://midwest.fws.gov/>

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Sam Hamilton, *Regional Director* (404)679-7086
<http://southeast.fws.gov/>

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*Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland,
Massachusetts, New Hampshire,
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island,
Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia*

Mamie Parker, *Regional Director* (413)253-8300
<http://northeast.fws.gov/>

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Ralph O. Morgenweck, *Regional Director* (303)236-7920
<http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/>

REGION SEVEN *1011 E. Tudor Rd., Anchorage, AK 99503*

Alaska

Dave Allen, *Regional Director* (907)786-3542
<http://alaska.fws.gov/>

ENDANGERED *Species* BULLETIN

Telephone: (703)358-2390

Fax: (703)358-1735

E-mail: esb@fws.gov

Editor

Michael Bender

Associate Editor

Susan D. Jewell

Art Director

David Yeargin

Subscriptions Manager

Germaine Kargbo

Contributors

Steven A. Williams

Kathryn Kennedy

Marie M. Brueggemann

Vickie Caraway

Mike Maunder

William E. Brumback

Timothy J. Bell

Marlin Bowles

Jenny McBride

Kayri Havens

Pati Vitt

Kathryn McEachern

Johnny Randall

Kimberlie McCue

Andrea Shea

Kathleen C. Rice

Holly Forbes

Cynthia Lane,

Elena Pinto-

Torres,

Hannah Thornton

Sam Wright

Eric M. Winford

Kim Mitchell



On the Cover

Many of the seeds stored at the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation (formerly the National Seed Storage Laboratory), a U.S. Department of Agriculture facility, were deposited by Center for Plant Conservation member institutions.

Center for Plant Conservation photo

Opposite page

The tiny Davis' green pitaya (*Echinocereus vividflorus* var. *davisii*), an extremely rare cactus, is one of the species being researched at the Desert Botanical Garden.

The Endangered Species Bulletin welcomes manuscripts on a wide range of topics related to endangered species. We are particularly interested in news about recovery, habitat conservation plans, and cooperative ventures. Please contact the Editor before preparing a manuscript. We cannot guarantee publication.

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